



- 1) Elizabeth I sixpence, third issue, pheon m/m, bust 1F, 1563 over 2 over a strange oversize 0. Spink 2561. 25mm, 2.74g. Apparently unrecorded (1) lot 411. Est. £40 - £60; £61.70 total.



- 2) Elizabeth II early style 50p 1979 struck on a 10p blank. 11.28g, i.e.. old two-shilling weight. Verified by Royal Mint (1) lot 846. Est. £40 - £50; £271.48 total.



- 3) William III halfpenny 1701, 0 over flan damage. 28mm, 10.54g. Spink 3556, inverted A's for V's obverse, and inverted V's for A's reverse are known on separate coins, but here shown for the first time on the same. (1) lot 210. Est. £40 - £60; £51.83 total.



- 4) A group of recent AV fantasies based on coins of ancient Iran (2) lot 490, probably from the same workshop as they all assayed (XRF) at about 20 carat, with about 14% Cu and a little Ag: a) AV 14, 3.64g Persis, crowned head of Namopat 1-2c AD & rev. standing figure facing star and crescent – a miniature of the AR drachm (3); b) AV 11.5, 2.15g Helmeted head of Darius I r. ditto 2c BC with degraded Parthian Arsacid reverse; and c) AV 16, 3.79g Parthia, bust ditto of Mithradates I, 171-138 BC I., with ditto reverse. Coins were issued in silver only, by both states at these times. Estimate £600-£800, did not sell at £480 (+23.4% premium/VAT – still being above scrap value).



- 5) Hyderabad mohur AV 23. 11.17g, dated 1280H/7: 7 on rev. at 11 o'clock. 1280 alone only KM Y#11 or online. (2) lot 264. Est. £750 - £850; £863.80 total.



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C. Elmy

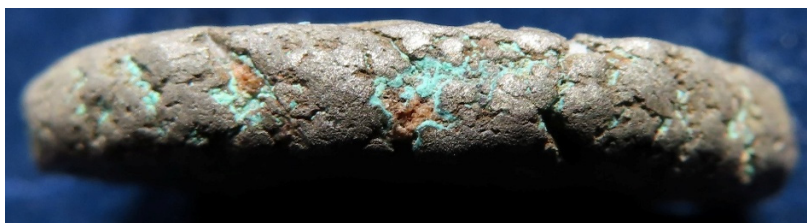
- 6) China, 1½ tael AR Guizhou style sycee ingot, Zhenyuan County, Guizhou (Kweichow) 25mm, 51.26g. Mint name in small top characters reading right to left, plus centre obscured by assay sample, reading downward 'Official Money Bureau'. It does not appear in catalogues or online and appears base and of slightly low weight. The writer could not recognise what were assumed to be obsolete Hanzi in the mint name so asked C. Elmy to carry out an online AI research. His photo and infill artwork submitted, illustrated, resulted in Zhen Yuan, both in Gansu and Guizhou, thus suggesting the latter; (4) lot 228. Estimate £160 - £180.



- 7) Northern India – AV 18mm, 3.83g small fantasy piece based on Kumaragupta I 409-452 AD, class II horseman type stater (5), (6) obverse King mounted r., rev. Lakshmi seated left on wicker stool, holding lotus. Full stater weight 7.8g of c.74% Au compares with this underweight miniature 80%, which has nonsense inscription and shows no attempt in accurately imitating the motifs of the original. This item turned up in a pile of scrap gold – of unknown final destination.



- 8) Alexander the Great AR 25-6, 16.84g tetradrachm, Babylon, either late lifetime or early posthumous (7) cf 3610-i1. The small mintmark characteristic of the series, left field cannot be reconciled with anything known. It resembles a left facing bust rotated clockwise about 60°. The motifs below the throne are characteristic of 'Babylon'. (2) lot 383, estimate £80 - £120; £185.10 total.



- 9) Alexandria, Egypt. Hadrian tetradrachm 25.4mm, 13.35g. (8) reverse Demeter, year 21. Of very good art and craft. Very few varieties of reverse were issued during the last three regnal years but the issues all seem to have been large. (9). It was brought in for demonstration purposes and it was seen at once that it appeared to have been struck on a copper cored billon plated flan, the base core being exposed by striking induced transverse edge cracking/flaking.



- 10) Tiberius as Caesar AE34, 18.61g sestertertius, Lyons, reverse altar ROMETAVG (1) lot 467, Sear 1753; RIC 240 etc; Mazzini 28/XXX. One of a group of twenty large Roman bronzes most of which were obvious forgeries but as sometimes happens we were not sure (should have been). Contemporary, lightweight and with poor lettering it seems nevertheless to have had some circulation erasing the casting pitting on the high relief. Listed with estimate £500 - £700 with a proviso of an expected reimbursement demand (subsequently granted) it sold £500 + 23.4%.



a)



b)

- 11) It is not always necessary to wait six years or forever for the appearance of an exact replica to discover a forgery. Two typical neopaduan mid 18c, Nero AE 34mm 'sestertii' – a) 23.92g (10); & b) 24.82g (11); Arch of Nero type BMCRE 330 (Lugdunum, not Rome) show identical supposedly plausible flan cracks. The radial plastic expansion and resulting increase of circumference of a genuine sestertius strike is too small to afford a 1mm+ edge flan crack. Genuine cracks are rare, of fractional millimetre width, and extend deeper toward the middle of the coin. Most sestertius forgeries have no edge cracks, but otherwise one must look out for metallic infill and projections from the sides of the gap i.e. whether sides fit, and for unrealistic disappearance of letter parts. As well as there having been 'an old ticket', another influence on this specimen's acceptance may have been 'attentional blindness' or the 'hidden gorilla', where an overenthusiastic focus on pseudoauthenticating features resulted in clear evidence of casting e.g. on the reverse relief and the obverse lettering being overlooked. (a) sold £493.60 total & reimbursed.

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